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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: STOUGHTON *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/038,894

Filed: March 11, 1998

For: *METHODS OF DIAGNOSIS AND TRIAGE
USING CELL ACTIVATION MEASURES*

Art Unit: 1651

Examiner Witz, J.



I hereby certify that this paper and the attached papers are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, D.C. 20231, on this date.

09/20/00

Date

Stephanie Goldman

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action, mailed March 20, 2000, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification at page 11, lines 4 and 5, by deleting the sentence "Neutrophil activation by the pancreatic homogenate has been found to be inhibited by protease inhibitors."

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-9, 25-31, 39 and 40 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claim 19 as follows:

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19. (Amended) A method of [treating or] improving treatment outcome or reducing risk of treatment or reducing the risk of developing [preventing] disorders [mediated by] accompanied by inappropriate cellular activation, comprising, prior to effecting treatment for the disorder, administering an effective amount of a protease inhibitor, wherein:
the amount is effective in lowering cell activation, thereby improving treatment outcome and reducing the risk of treatment of the disorders; and

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